

HAPPY NEW YEAR

# The Elba Clipper

Volume 107, Number 29

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, January 1, 2004

1 Section, 12 Pages

## A brief look back at the year that was 2003

### JANUARY

January 2 - Gary McAliley receives district attorney appointment for the Twelfth Judicial Circuit Court from Governor Don Siegelman; (picture) Progress continues with the Ballard, Bridge project on Hwy. 134 in Coffee County; Coffee County Commission approves motion to provide \$2,000 to help ESJC finish its girls softball field; (picture) Elba Elementary's D.A.R.E. program presents giant card of thanks to Rep. Terry Spicer.

January 9 - New Brockton Town Council members discuss importance of being present at meetings with District Four seat vacant; (picture) Two-vehicle collision at intersection of Claxton Ave. and Simmons St. sends two to the hospital; New Brockton Town Council passes due process ordinance for law enforcement officers; Brundidge-Phenix City National Guard unit receives mobilization orders; Elba attorney Jackson W. Stokes, Garnet Lindsey and Robert E. Cannon honored at reception.

January 16 - City of Elba office announces it is ready to accept applications for license to sell alcoholic beverages; (picture) Elba levee rehab project continues with a major cutting of the existing levee and the lowering of a storm drain pipe behind the old Elba High gym; Coffee County officials address problems with the jail's sewage due to regular flushing items other than paper down the toilet; Several department heads and county commission meeting to discuss purchase order compliance; Coffee County BOE prioritizes capital fund projects for schools.

January 23 - Gary McAliley honored at ceremony upon returning as judge to fill position as Twelfth Judicial Circuit Court District Attorney; Judge Steven Blair named Twelfth Judicial Circuit Court Judge and John Dowling receives appointment as Coffee County's new district judge; (picture) Elba Fire Department responds to a house fire at 980 Carver Drive; (picture) Mobile home fire in Kinston claims the life of 18-month-old DJ Wise; Elba City School superintendent Danny Weeks says school system continues to pull away from the financial crisis it faced a year prior; Elba native Troy King appointed as Gov. Bob Riley's legal advisor; (picture) Citizens of New Brockton participate in annual "Walk of Remembrance" honoring the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.; Elba Water and Electric Board votes to roll back some commercial water rates since the previous year.

January 30 - Resident addresses commission at meeting and says he feels the county needs three full-time commissioners instead of seven part-time ones; (picture) An arctic blast moves through the region turning the fountain in the courtyard of the Elba Courthouse into a fountain of icicles; Rehabilitation project begins on house set to become future home of the Elba Chamber of Commerce; Elba Economic and Development office; (picture) Coffee County's 4-H Meats judging Team places first at the national contest held in Denver, Colo.

February 6 - New Brockton Town Council creates committee to design emergency management plan; (picture) Elba students Justin Allen and Jason Curran were among those participating in the annual Groundhog Day Shadowing

program; The birthplace of former governor James E. (Big Jim) Folsom is moved to its owned property next to the old Coffee County Jail in Elba; City of Elba schedules public hearings for the Elba Texaco Food Mart, Inc. and Friendship Package Store #2 both seeking a license to sell alcoholic beverages; (picture) The City of Elba, Elba Headstart Center, Organized Community Action Program and Dietary Managers Association proclaim Feb. 3-7 as Pride in Food Service Week.

February 13 - Commissioner Robert Stephens named to Water Study Management team for Wiregrass; (picture) Elba residents Sammie and Jake Morrow purchase, Valentine cards for their five grandchildren; Elba City Council unanimously gives final approval for a license to sell alcoholic beverages within the city limits to the Elba Texaco Food Mart Inc. and Friendship Package Store #2.

February 20 - J.B. Taylor Diagnostic Lab in Elba gets digester system through \$700,000 grant; City of Elba begins planning Sesquicentennial celebration; Local law enforcement officials make several drug busts throughout the county during the time frame of Jan. 29 - Feb. 13. Coffee County BOE approves motion to complete Zion Chapel ball field project; (picture) Martin Luther King Drive is closed to traffic to allow work pertaining to the levee rehabilitation project.

February 27 - Elba Police Department investigates series of car burglaries which occurred in the parking lot of Elba High School while a Coffee County Arts Alliance presentation was taking place; (picture) A map represents a redistricting plan designed for the City of Elba; Elba City Council approves alcohol license for three more businesses - both Big Little Stores and the Elba Market Place; Coffee County Commission opens bid for county's solid waste collection contract; (picture) The Mulberry District Baptist Association holds a Black History program with Rev. C.A. Hammond Jr. as the guest speaker.

March 6 - Eight people arrested in Elba on drug charges; (picture) Elba Lions Club holds annual pancake breakfast; County residents encouraged to pay delinquent solid waste collection bills; New Brockton Town Council completes internal investigation of police department and says it is satisfied with improvements; (picture) Elba Chamber of Commerce holds ribbon cutting for the Diabetes Wellness Center.

March 13 - Coffee County Commission looks to collect delinquent garbage fees through whatever means necessary; Zion Chapel baton team gives demonstration during Coffee County BOE meeting; Elba Chamber of Commerce sponsors a Legislative Breakfast with Rep. Terry Spicer and Sen. Jimmy Holley serving as guest speakers; Elba Police officers arrest suspect after he broke into an Elba residence and held a woman at knife-point; (picture) Elba Chamber of Commerce holds ribbon cutting for Randy's Small Motors.

March 20 - Following onslaught of rain, Elba's Pea River rises to more than 15 feet; Elba City Council approves new voting districts during meeting; Congressman Terry Everett responds to President Bush's address on Iraq saying he is in

support of the president's ultimate to Saddam Hussein to disarm and leave Iraq or face certain military action; Alabama's quarter officially opens to circulation on Monday, March 24; (picture) Elba Chamber of Commerce holds ribbon cutting for Stan Houston's State Farm Insurance office.

March 27 - Elba City Council hears request from residents to clean up Mulberry and stop beer sales in the neighborhood; Commission voted to purchase four vehicles for sheriff's department; Brantley school receives national school improvement award; Work begins on section of Hwy. 84 from East of County Road 507 to West of Double Bridges Creek in New Brockton.

April 3 - (picture) With opening of Iraqi Freedom in full swing, residents show support for troops by displaying yellow ribbons; City of Elba gets headstart on mosquito control by beginning annual chemical spraying campaign.

April 10 - Local law enforcement officers make several drug busts during time span of March 14 - April 1; Elba and Coffee County effort paying off as officers reported 75 cases and 84 arrests in first quarter; (picture) Elba High School's Band Day 2003 proves successful with the "Musical Chairs - A Chairty Event" getting a lot of attention; Coffee County BOE studies specifications for capital fund projects then votes to proceed.

April 17 - (picture) Suth and Avery Hanley look forward to Easter as they prepare for the holiday tradition of hunting eggs; Elba resident James Coleman addresses city council concerning drainage problem at his new home located at the intersection of Lee and Whitman streets; Attorney Gary McAliley addresses Coffee County Commission and provides update from his office; City of Elba begins Sesquicentennial Celebration with Sunday afternoon religious service on the square.

April 24 - Elba City Schools get good reviews from monitoring teams; City of Elba assists Elba City School System with lighting project for campus; Local citizens encouraged to "lace up" their shoes for Fun Run/Walk; (picture) Caroline Street closes to allow levee rehabilitation work to proceed in that area.

May 1 - Coffee County Sheriff Ben Moates discusses spare vehicle usage with Commission; (picture) Elba Tigers end baseball season with second round loss in state play-offs; Elba City Council approves appointment of Jimmy Harrison to Elba Library Board; Elba City School student Drew Ellis honored at Elba Public Library reception for creating winning FOEPL logo; (picture) Dr. Lance K. Dyess wins contest and kisses a pig to help raise money for Coffee County Relay for Life.

May 8 - Kleinen's employees receive letter terminating their employment; (picture) Elba holds Fun Run/Walk as part of Sesquicentennial Celebration; Local law enforcement continues to make drug arrests during time span of April 15 - May 1; With questions of funding line-item, Coffee County BOE decides to be patient and hopeful; (picture) Elba Chamber of Commerce holds ribbon cutting for 20/20 Cafe.

May 15 - (picture) Miss Elba Anna Anderson and Junior Miss Elba Cameron Irwin measure the new width of the levee; News-Brockton Town Council approves Bob Andrews as new principal of New Brockton Elementary School; (picture) An oak stump in the levee near the Pea River bridge serves as an example of what will no longer be allowed to grow on the newly renovated levee.

July 10 - Elba Rotarians hear tax package update from government's legal advisor, Troy King; Elba teenager, Jeremiah Prettyman, seriously injured during weekend car accident; Citizens urged to use safety precautions with hot water heaters.

July 17 - Town of New Brockton appoints officer William "Bill" King as "acting" police chief; Four members of Elba family killed in Interstate 85 accident near Auburn; (picture) City of Elba continues Sesquicentennial Celebration with huge birthday bash on the square; Zion Chapel band director among new hires during Coffee County BOE meeting; Elba Mayor James Grimes becomes a certified municipal official; (picture) Testing the compactness and moisture content of the levee rehabilitation's dirt work in just one process of many handled each and every day.

July 24 - Elba native, Sgt. Jason David Jordan, is killed while serving his country in Iraq; Elba superintendent Danny Weeks says finances in good shape for Elba City Schools; Elba D.A.R.E. officer Michael Adkinson receives honor while attending training seminar; (picture) Motorists encouraged to wear seat belts after incident at intersection of Hwy. 141 and Hwy. 84 results in one person falling out of vehicle.

July 31 - Life of Sgt. Jason David Jordan honored during memorial service in Victoria community; Coffee County BOE fine-tunes its personnel list for upcoming school year; Elba City Council approves new airport rules and regulations dealing with changes for aerial spray applicators.

August 7 - New Brockton Town Council recognizes hometown softball players; Motivational program begins 2003-04 school year for faculty of Elba City School System; Elba BOE holds special meeting to approve personnel changes; New Brockton officials request proper hour numbering.

August 14 - Elba City Council approves tax increase on tobacco products; (picture) The land is almost cleared and the dog pound on its last legs as city prepares to move out to make room for new TMD plant; Runners run rapid following t-shirt incident at Zion Chapel Schools; County revenue commissioner and probate judge address governor's proposed tax plan during commission meeting; (picture) Ribbon cutting held for Subway of Elba as ownership changes hands.

June 26 - Toledo Molding and Die Inc (TMD), a Ohio-based automotive supplier, chooses Elba as home for new facility; Jesse Lewis accepts governor's appointment to fill her late husband's commission

seat; County BOE looks at solution to Zion Chapel School sewage problem; (picture) Tristen Timell was among the many youngsters to participate in the "Celebrate Elba 150" Youth/Sr. Fishing Tournament at the Coffee County Lake.

September 4 - Sundas morning fire destroys old Rocky Head Missionary Baptist Church; Marion Brunson named Elba's Sesquicentennial King and Lois English named Sesquicentennial Queen; Local bed and breakfast undergoes revitalization; (picture) Elba Fire Department responds to a barn fire in the Riverview subdivision.

September 11 - Coffee County says no to Amendment One; (picture) Elba Fire Department responds to a house fire at 2420 Taylor Mill Road; Fire disables Coffee Baking Company but owners quickly begin working towards reopening; (picture) A section of both the Troy Highway and Martin Luther King Dr. were closed to make way for continued levee work.

September 18 - Residents encouraged to report suspicious activity as officials investigate fires; (picture) Elba Fire Department responds to a house fire on County Road 404; Kent Reynolds becomes Coffee County's new D.A.R.E. officer; Elba resident, Iylema Askew, is named 2003 Alabama Worker of the Year by Dickie Workwear Company; (picture) Officers investigate a two-vehicle accident at the intersection of Hwy. 189 and the 203 bypass in Elba.

September 25 - Elba City Council balks but then passes budget for coming fiscal year; (picture) Cousins, Millicent Nolin and Caitlin Bradshaw enjoy Friday Night Football at Elba's Tiger Stadium; Boyd Hartzog sworn in as new chief of police for the Town of New Brockton.

October 2 - Moseley's Studios named 2003 Chamber Business of the Year at the annual Elba Chamber of Commerce banquet; Elba levee rehab project brings more road closures; \$5 utility check-off fee continues to help Elba Schools; (picture) Elba Chamber of Commerce holds ribbon cutting for The Olde South Inn bed and breakfast.

October 9 - Elba's new diagnostic lab project gets green light; (picture) Two-vehicle collision at intersection of Claxton and Whitman avenues sends two to the hospital; Swearing-in ceremony held for Coffee County Board of Registrars; (picture) County youth go up close and personal with animals during 2003 Farm City Week Petting Zoo; Elba resident Olean Smith proud to be involved with Habitat for Humanity.

October 16 - (picture) Elba holds Sesquicentennial festival on the square despite rain; Brick disagreement for Mount Pleasant Senior Citizen Center takes center stage during commission meeting.

October 23 - Elba Criminal

Jury term of court held; (picture) Groundbreaking ceremonies were held for the new medical practice in Elba.

Please See YEAR, Page 2

## EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page One)

**BRAINSTORMS**  
with Ferrin Cox

The confirmed Mad Cow case in the state of Washington is scary. Americans had a "no here" attitude after the massive outbreak in England, but can no longer think like that. While we salute the regulations that led to discovering this one mad cow, our mind is filled with a lot of questions. The main one is why would they send a cow through the food chain if there was a chance it was sick? Why didn't they put that beef aside until the tests were completed? Of course the experts in the meat packing industry will probably say they couldn't afford it, etc. but ah ha - they can afford to recall and throw away thousands of pounds of perfectly good beef, hoping to be sure they got the tainted meat. Which would be cheaper (and the right thing to do)?

Today we are full of questions. The Dothan police situation should raise a whole bunch of red flags. A long time officer resigns after allegations of sending unsigned letters to several accusers his bosses of some type of wrongdoing. Then County Commission Chairman Mark Culver's bid to be city manager of Dothan was sidetracked after it was learned he cooperated with the police chief and allowed a tap be placed on his telephone. Now this is something a newspaper doesn't need to do unless it is a very serious situation, but a public official who doesn't cooperate with law officials in carrying out their assigned duties should be the one replaced - not the man who helps the police!

Fast food companies are running scared over a sprinkling of laws, suits claiming the company is responsible for a person being obese. Already there are efforts toward informing the public exactly how much fat is in a particular burger, etc., and there are signs that this procedure will find its way in the lawbooks. It is amazing that we consider this something to have a law on because it is bad for our health yet we wouldn't even think of banning cigarettes, making motor bike riders in Florida wear helmets "unless they want to," etc. That goes on and on. It must be learned that the public controls right and wrong. We are personally overweight to know why. It is a simple matter of eating entirely too much food and still following something taught to us as a child - "cleaning our plate." Yet we don't blame anyone but ourselves for that - no one forces us to take all that food.

Our Christmas was great! We spent it with our three children, their spouses... and of course the grandchildren. You know the kind of things we are talking about - those darlings, the beautiful, well mannered geniuses. The downside of the day was that the grandchildren had a virus and didn't feel good at all. The baby just wouldn't sleep, unless he was in someone's arms and of course granddaddy was more than willing to comply. We got in a bunch of quality time and it gave mom and dad a much needed break! It is so terrible to see a child that is sick and doesn't understand what is going on, but all humans are going to get a cold at one time or another. The bright side is that wasn't the off the hook bug.

There is a lot of talk and writing about computer viruses. However these top off, artist are potentially more dangerous. During the weekend we were hit with one e-mail about our "winning a prize," which we promptly trashed. Then we got a barrage of the same. I am not sure what to do. Sunday alone there were 28 of them! Monday the number was higher, and growing. Some were from folks all around the world trying to stop the e-mails from their box. Apparently if someone responds, it again goes out (again) to everyone on the original list. Research by a smart guy in England shows this is a scam to get you to call a high cost phone number (in Spain), or some other European country.

**Elba Police Report**

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, Dec. 22, 2003, investigated the following incidents: two for burglary, two for theft of property, one trespassing; one found property, three for criminal mischief, one accidental shooting, one attempted suicide, one harassing communications and two for domestic violence.

The following arrests were made: one for failure to appear and one for receiving stolen property.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: two for speeding, one for no insurance, one for a switched tag, one for reckless driving and one for not wearing a seat belt.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows: MONDAY, DEC. 22 - River stage - 6.66 feet (6:15 a.m.); Assault (not in progress) reported at 1119 Guyton St. (10:00 p.m.).

TUESDAY, DEC. 23 - River stage - 7.29 feet (6:14 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched at 1006 Elm Ave. (9:40 a.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 1549 Powell Circle (4:40 p.m.).

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 24 - River stage - 6.66 feet (6:15 a.m.); Assault (not in progress) reported at 1119 Guyton St. (10:00 p.m.).

THURSDAY, DEC. 25 - River stage - 7.59 feet (6:03 a.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 1549 Powell Circle (4:40 p.m.).

FRIDAY, DEC. 26 - River stage - 7.29 feet (6:14 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched at 1006 Elm Ave. (9:40 a.m.); Accidental shooting reported at 1549 Powell Circle (4:40 p.m.).

SATURDAY, DEC. 27 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 20731 Hwy 87 N (12:35 a.m.); River stage - 7.88 feet (6:00 a.m.); Breaking and entering (not in progress), reported at 752 Pine Dale (8:44 a.m.); Routine activity.

SUNDAY, DEC. 28 - Disturbance reported at 619 Mullins Circle (1:45 a.m.); River stage - 6.48 feet (6:16 a.m.); Disturbance reported at 935 Payne St. (10:35 p.m.).

TUESDAY, DEC. 29 - River stage - 5.96 feet (6:08 a.m.); Minor wreck reported in the Hardee's parking lot (9:07 a.m.).

**The Elba Clipper**

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6 Months - \$10, including city & state tax  
Alabama Counties - \$21 per year - including tax  
6 months - \$11

Outside Alabama - \$24 per year - 6 months - \$13

**YEAR**

Julian Bryan Taylor Diagnostic Laboratory Building, Kimson's Madison Weeks crowned Little Miss National Peanut Festival; (picture) Flood bypass installed for the bridge on Caron Street as part of the levee rehabilitation project; Commission accepts proposal from Enterprise Police Department to banish sheriff's department dispatching; (picture) Elba Chamber of Commerce holds ribbon cutting for the office of Dr. Walter J. Lawrence, MD.

October 30 - Officials continue the war on drugs in Coffee County; (picture) Hard work pays off for Elba Marching Tiger Band as it receives several awards during contest season; Elba City Council approves new consolidated review; (picture) Elba Chamber of Commerce holds ribbon cutting for the office of Dr. Walter J. Lawrence, MD.

November 6 - Coffee County Commission addresses by several citizens with differing requests; (picture) The Elba Chamber of Commerce begins the holiday season with "Pumpkins on the Square" to allow local youth an opportunity to trick-or-treat. Agriculture and industry come together for Farm City Swap; New Brockton Town Council temporarily changes monthly meeting date; (picture) Elba Chamber of Commerce holds ribbon cutting for Creative Fashions.

December 27 - During Elba City Council meeting, group announces Coffee County EMS making transition to non-profit organization, Cash Brothers Leasing Inc. honored Coffee County Farm City's 2003 Industry of the Year; (picture) Elba Mayor James Grimes signs National Hospice Month proclamation; (picture) Elba Chamber of Commerce holds ribbon cutting for Thanksgiving "Click it or Ticket" campaign; (picture) Elba Chamber of Commerce holds ribbon cutting for Creative Fashions.

December 11 - (picture) Santa visits New Brockton for annual Christmas parade; Coffee County Commissioners support keeping adult daycare facilities open; Christmas event committees present check to the New Brockton Town Council; (picture) A Coffee County School bus is involved in a three-vehicle accident on County Rd 223.

December 18 - Coffee County Sheriff's Department seeks help in finding church burglars; Elba's new animal control shelter nearing completion; Elba City Council accepts

letter of resignation from fire chief Larry Goodson; appoints Danny Jordan as chief for remainder of current term; former Elba D.A.R.E. officer Dean Blair addresses students during 2003 Elba Elementary School D.A.R.E. graduation.

December 25 - The 2003 Elba Christmas Family is the Norris Family (Patrick, Julie and triplets Kristen, Aaron and Brooklyn).

December 31 - Five county residents arrested on drug charges; (picture) Local municipal and county officials sign 2003 Farm City Week proclamation; Local law enforcement agencies join together for Thanksgiving "Click it or Ticket" campaign; (picture) Elba Chamber of Commerce holds ribbon cutting for Creative Fashions.

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# SCHOOLS



## Zion Chapel High School REBEL NEWS

Rachel Bryan, Sponsor

### Students compete in spelling bee



Caleb Walden, fourth grader, won the elementary spelling bee. Second place was won by Kayla Hurd who is in the fifth grade.

Middle school first-place winner was Chelsey Freeman. John Paul Maddox won second place. Chelsey is a seventh grader and John Paul is in the eighth grade.

These winners will compete again on Jan. 22 at the county level. This contest will be held at the administrative offices of the Coffee County Board of Education. The "Bee" will begin at 1 p.m.



*Happy New Year!*

*New Year's Greetings*

# SPORTS

## Views from... The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Our girls have always had more than one stocking hanging over the fireplace for Christmas and over the years they have insisted that all the stockings needed to be filled before they awoke on Christmas morning. This year only the stockings in the room with the Christmas tree were filled by Santa, but they had two apiece and one was filled with candy while the other had small items that they could use in the days and weeks to come. The fact they had another stocking hanging over the fireplace in the living room that was left empty didn't seem to phase them at all, but before the day ended they were tussling about each other getting candy out of the wrong stockings. Oh well, some things never change.

### FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH...

\*\*\* The high school basketball season will swing back into action this week and Elba High fans are hoping that both the Tigers and Lady Tigers will get on a roll and start to pile up the wins. The Tigers won four of their first seven games before the holiday break, including a big win over Andalusia and a key area win over Straughn, but must still develop a personality on offense and begin to score more points if they hope to stay above the .500 mark. The Tigers play as hard on defense as any team in the area and are as quick, but seem to always hesitate before shooting the ball and at times it looks like they are afraid to just square up and take a shot. If the Tigers can gain some confidence on the offensive end of the court they could do big things over the coming weeks. The Lady Tigers closed the pre-holiday portion of the schedule with three straight wins and claimed the championship of the Zion Chapel Christmas Tournament, and have to be looking forward to getting back on the court. The Elba girls got off to an 0-3 start and appeared headed for a tough season, but the Lady Tigers just kept working and in their final four games began to look like a team that had finally figured out it could win. A narrow loss to highly-ranked Ragan gave a hint better things were coming, and in the Zion Chapel tournament a win over 1A power Arton let everyone know the Lady Tigers were ready to go. There is still a lot of basketball left this season and anything can happen, but Elba fans should get ready to watch their two varsity teams hit the court and the guess here is that many more wins are on the way.

\*\*\* The field looked great and the announcers bragged about the stadium and the facilities at Troy State throughout the game, but the fact a crowd that would not have made high school officials proud had to put a real damper on last week's Blue-Grey Football Classic. The bleachers were almost empty when the game kicked off and by the time the game ended there were barely enough fans for the cameraman to find. Game officials had hoped that by moving the game to the afternoon on Christmas day the area fans would have time to open presents and eat lunch, then head out to the game and watch some of the top college players from across the nation take the field. As it turned out, even the fast players from Troy State, Alabama State and Alabama were on the South roster made little difference to the fans, who either stayed home and watched the game on TV, or simply didn't care about the game. The Montgomery sportswriters are already calling for the game to move back to its original site and claim the larger population base in Montgomery will at least put a few more folks in the stands. That may be true, but All-Star games are rarely a big fan draw and maybe it is time for the Montgomery Lions Club to sell the game to another city and just enjoy their one-time payoff.

\*\*\* Two of the top high school basketball tournaments in the state are held in the area each year after Christmas and this year was no different as a total of 16 teams converged at both Dothan and Red Level to get in some extra time on the court during the holidays. The Dothan event has long been one of the top tournaments in the state and puts the proceeds back to the teams taking part, with last year's first four teams getting almost \$4,000 each. The tournament included sixteen boys teams and was spread out over six nights, and big crowds jammed the Civic Center each night to watch the teams in action. Elba in Red Level, a total of eight boys teams and eight girls teams took part in the annual event, and the unique thing about the tournament was that all sixteen teams played three games over the three-day event. Coaches want to win every time they take the court, but during the holidays they also want to play, and the Red Level tournament gives all the teams the chance to do both. If you are a high school basketball fan and you didn't make it to one of the tournaments, make plans now to attend one, or both next year.

\*\*\* Now that the coaching situation at Auburn has been put to rest for at least a few months the only thing its fans can worry about is whether Cadillac Williams will head to the NFL. The Auburn running back has refused to answer the question over the past few weeks and has said he will wait and sit down with the coaches after the bowl game and then make a decision. I could be wrong, but I believe that many of the college players that go to the NFL early head out not only because they think they can get rich, but because they are having trouble in class and are tired of school. The rumor was that one of the Alabama players that declared for the NFL would have been academically ineligible anyway so, why not give the NFL a shot? As for Cadillac, I don't think he will be an impact player in the NFL, whether he heads out this year or waits until after his senior year. However, his future is in his hands and Auburn fans will find out very soon what those plans are.

\*\*\* Many Alabama football fans are still upset about Coach Mike Shula not making some immediate changes to his coaching staff after the Tide's 4-9 season, but the Tide fans need to chill out and realize that making changes during the recruiting season is not a good thing to do. The players need to get close with the coaches that are recruiting them and even a hint of a change could lead to a player heading somewhere else. I agree that the Tide must make changes if things are to get any better and the biggest change is the Athletic Director, but whether we like it or not we don't make the decisions and must sit back and hope the powers to be do what is best for the program.

\*\*\* In closing...A new year will begin this week and as always that means new hope for a lot of people that struggled to survive the one that just ended. We always look ahead with anticipation and often look back with despair, but it seems like over the years we seem to call those years that have come and gone the "good 'ole days." I too hope that 2004 will be better in many ways for me and my loved ones, and share that hope with you. Have a safe and Happy New Year!

By The Montgomery Advertiser

## Elba's Jessie Thigpen named All-State

The Montgomery Advertiser announced its annual "All-State" high school football teams last week in all six classifications and named to the honored list in Class 3A was Elba Tiger defensive tackle Jessie Thigpen.

Thigpen, a 6-2, 262-pound junior, anchored the Tigers' defensive front throughout the 2003 season and recorded 59 tackles and 21 assists, with 11 tackles for losses and 5 quarterback sacks.

"Jessie really stepped up for us this season," said Elba's Coach Mike Waters, "and he became a leader by example both on the field and at practice. He was the strongest player on the team and only needed experience and the desire to excel to become a dominating player. He got better and better as the season went along and had his best games against our biggest opponents. Jessie can be as good as he wants to be, and maybe this honor will push him to work even harder and make him an even better player next season."

Other area players named to the All-State lists included:

### HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL SCHEDULES

**FRIDAY, JAN. 2**  
New Brockton at Goshen (4:30) B-GV-BV

**MONDAY, JAN. 5**  
Elba at Zion Chapel (4:30) B-GV-BV

**TUESDAY, JAN. 6**  
Elba at Georgia (4:30) B-GV-BV

**Highland** Home at New Brockton (4:30) B-GV-BV

**THURSDAY, JAN. 8**  
New Brockton at Kinston (4:30) B-GV-BV

**FRIDAY, JAN. 9**  
Elba at Abbeville (4:30) B-GV-BV

New Brockton at Samson (4:30) B-GV-BV

**CLASS 1A**  
Jamal Jones (LB) Brantley 5-10, 175 Senior  
Antonio Rodgers (DL) Brantley 6-1, 180 Senior  
Demetrius Preyer (OL) T.R. Miller 6-2, 215 Senior  
Nick Walker (ATH) Pike Co. 6-4, 240 Senior  
Marco Daniel (D.W.S.) Neal 5-11, 180 Soph.  
Brian Nall (LB) Straughn 6-2, 225 Senior  
Jessie Thigpen (DL) Elba 6-2, 262 Junior  
Jeremy Robinson (ATH) Highland Home 5-10, 170 Senior  
Marco Rogers (DB) Luverne 6-1, 185 Senior  
James Norman (DL) Luverne 6-1, 220 Senior  
Josh Parks (DL) Slocomb 6-0, 190 Senior  
Dustin Parkman (TE) Houston Acad. 5-11, 195 Senior  
Alex Burkett (PK) Houston Acad. 5-10, 165 Junior  
Mike DuBose (Coach of Year) Luverne

**CLASS 2A**  
Larry Hudson (RB) Red Level 5-11, 182 Senior  
Chester Adams (OL) Luverne 5-5, 315 Senior  
Hank Smith (OL) Slocomb 6-2, 215 Senior  
Jeremy Robinson (ATH) (ATH) Highland Home 5-10, 170 Senior  
Marco Rogers (DB) Luverne 6-1, 185 Senior  
James Norman (DL) Luverne 6-1, 220 Senior  
Josh Parks (DL) Slocomb 6-0, 190 Senior  
Dustin Parkman (TE) Houston Acad. 5-11, 195 Senior  
Alex Burkett (PK) Houston Acad. 5-10, 165 Junior  
Mike DuBose (Coach of Year) Luverne

**CLASS 3A**  
Chris Nickson (QB) Pike Co. 6-1, 190 Senior  
Alphonso Gross (RB) W.S. Neal 5-9, 183 Senior  
Elijah Daniel (WR) Pike Co. 5-11, 175 Senior  
Trent Davidson (TE) T.R. Miller 6-5, 245 Senior

**CLASS 4A**  
Roggie Johnson (OL) CCA 6-5, 290 Senior  
Anthony Douglas (DL) Eufaula 6-4, 220 Senior  
Josh (P) C.H.S. 5-11, 192

**CLASS 5A**  
Devaris Skanes, Brantley Marcel Stamps, Brantley Cedric Jones, Brantley Antonio Kelley, Pike Co., Al Freehey, Straughn, Bobby McVay, Straughn.

**CLASS 6A**  
Wallace Kelley (OL) CCA 6-5, 290 Senior  
Patrick Brooks, CHHS, James Carter, Eufaula, Rod Owens, Greenville, Willie Suduth, CHHS.

**AISA**  
Keith Fowler, ACA.

Level: Tyler Simmons, New Brockton.  
**CLASS 3A** - Brad Lammom, T.R. Miller; Michael Hobbs, Straughn; Chris Bell, Pike Co.; Antonio Gomez, T.R. Miller; Chris Johnson, W.S. Neal; Antonio Kelley, Pike Co.; Al Freehey, Straughn; Bobby McVay, Straughn.  
**CLASS 4A** - Michael Dutton, Andalusia; Brandon Thompson, Rehobeth.  
**CLASS 5A** - Jason Smiley, CHHS; James Carter, Eufaula; Patrick Brooks, CHHS; Rod Owens, Greenville; Willie Suduth, CHHS.

**CLASS 6A** - Letonio Johnson, Georgiana; Tony Merriweather, H.Home; Randall Hunt, Red Level; Eric Whitlow, Houston Acad.; Randy Howard, Red Level.

**HONORABLE MENTION**

**CLASS 1A** - Devaris Skanes, Brantley Marcel Stamps, Brantley Cedric Jones, Brantley Antonio Kelley, Pike Co., Al Freehey, Straughn, Bobby McVay, Straughn.

**CLASS 2A** - Letonio Johnson, Georgiana; Tony Merriweather, H.Home; Randall Hunt, Red Level; Eric Whitlow, Houston Acad.; Randy Howard, Red Level.

**CLASS 3A** - Devaris Skanes, Brantley Marcel Stamps, Brantley Cedric Jones, Brantley Antonio Kelley, Pike Co., Al Freehey, Straughn, Bobby McVay, Straughn.

**CLASS 4A** - Michael Dutton, Andalusia; Brandon Thompson, Rehobeth.

**CLASS 5A** - Jason Smiley, CHHS; James Carter, Eufaula; Patrick Brooks, CHHS; Rod Owens, Greenville; Willie Suduth, CHHS.

**CLASS 6A** - Letonio Johnson, Georgiana; Tony Merriweather, H.Home; Randall Hunt, Red Level; Eric Whitlow, Houston Acad.; Randy Howard, Red Level.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved, that the City Council of the City of Elba as follows:

**SECTION 1:** The redistricting plan, as approved by the City Council of the City of Elba, Alabama, is hereby adopted as the City of Elba Voting District Map as set out within this Ordinance.

**WHILE**, the City Council did not interfere with any objection, the specified change, the City Council now desires to adopt by Ordinance and publish the approved districts and related population distributions.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved, that the City Council of the City of Elba as follows:

**SECTION 2:** The City of Elba is divided into five voting districts with the geographical areas of each district shown on the City of Elba Voting District Map, which said map is made a part of and referenced thereto as set out in this Ordinance.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved, that the records for the redistricting of the City of Elba are on file in the office of the City Clerk.

**SECTION 3:** A list of qualified voters shall be prepared for each voting district and the same to be published prior to an election as provided by law.

**SECTION 4:** The boundaries of the five voting districts with reference to the 2000 Bureau of census data is as follows:

**District 1** White 322 Black 777 Other 0 Total 812

**District 2** White 322 Black 777 Other 0 Total 812

**District 3** White 704 Black 390 Other 23 Total 812

**District 4** White 430 Black 390 Other 23 Total 812

**District 5** White 442 Black 388 Other 5 Total 835

**SECTION 5:** The records for the redistricting of the City of Elba are on file in the office of the City Clerk.

**ATTEST:** Wayne Grantham, City Clerk, 12-25-1-1chq

THE ELBA CLIPPER • THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 2004

## CITY OF ELBA VOTING DISTRICTS AS GOVERNED BY 2000 CENSUS

ORDINANCE NO. 120903  
AN ORDINANCE TO  
ADOPT THE REDISTRICTING  
PLAN FOR VOTING WITHIN THE  
CORPORATE LIMITS OF  
THE CITY OF ELBA, ALABAMA

WHEREAS, the 2000 census report by block count indicated sufficient change in population distribution within the corporate limits of the City of Elba, Alabama to justify requiring consideration of changes of the five districts as established by the 1990 census;

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held March 4, 2003 and no one appeared to make public comment; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Elba, Alabama, as the redistricting plan for the City of Elba, Coffee County, Alabama, as the redistricting plan to be submitted under Section 5, Voting Rights Act to the Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice, Washington, DC; and

WHEREAS, the notice was published in the Elba Citizen, advising the public that the submission package would be available for review from July 17, 2003 to July 31, 2003, at the Elba City Hall, 200 Buford Street, Elba, Alabama and that comments were to be delivered or mailed to the office of the Mayor sent to the Chief Voting Section Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice, P.O. Box 66128, Washington, DC, 20535-6128; and

WHEREAS, no written comments were received regarding the submission package to the Department of Justice; and

WHEREAS, the proposed plan was submitted to the Department of Justice for preclearance pursuant to Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act, 42 USC § 1973; and

WHEREAS, the City Council did not interfere with any objection, the specified change, the City Council now desires to adopt by Ordinance and publish the approved districts and related population distributions.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved, that the City Council of the City of Elba as follows:

**SECTION 1:** The redistricting plan, as approved by the City Council of the City of Elba, Alabama, is hereby adopted as the City of Elba Voting District Map, which said map is made a part of and referenced thereto as set out in this Ordinance.

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**SECTION 5:** The records for the redistricting of the City of Elba are on file in the office of the City Clerk.

**ATTEST:** Wayne Grantham, City Clerk, 12-25-1-1chq

**IN THE MATTER OF:** THE ESTATE OF REXTON LA'DON CAMPBELL, Deceased.

CASE NO. PC-03-83

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT**

Letters of Administration of said deceased having been granted to Allison McNeese, on the 16th day of December, 2003, by Judge William O. Gammill, Probate Court of Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

**RESOLUTION NO. 120803**

WHEREAS, The City of Elba, Alabama is hereby making known its intention to apply to the State of Alabama for a FY 2004 Community Development Block Grant Loan for industrial development under the program set forth in Title II of Housing and Community Development Act of 1974; and

WHEREAS, this legislative body of Elba, Alabama, recognizes James E. Grimes, Mayor of the City of Elba, Alabama, as the appropriate official authorized to act on behalf of the City in such dealings; and

WHEREAS, this body acknowledges that the Mayor's signature shall be binding upon Elba, Alabama,

# CLASSIFIEDS

## The Elba Clipper

417 W. Buford St. • P.O. Box A  
Elba, AL 36323-0257

### TO PLACE AN AD

CALL 334-897-2823  
FAX 334-897-3434

TOLL-FREE  
1-888-216-8050

e-mail clipper@alaweb.com

### DEADLINE

The deadline for placing a classified or other advertisement is noon on Tuesday of the week in which the ad is to appear.



**VISA**

**MasterCard**

### COST

Only \$3.00\* per week (first 15 words)

\*Additional words 17¢ each

### FOR SALE

### AUTOS FOR SALE

**ADORABLE CHIHUAHUA PUPPY** CKC Registered, \$25.00. Call after 5:00 p.m. 334-735-2688. 1-1-2mc

**2001 ULT HOME COMPUTERIZED BROTHER EMBROIDERY SEWING MACHINE** Ties, Floppy Disk, 1 Large Hoop, 3 Meds; 1 Small; \$2,500.00. 334-565-3997. 12-25-4tc

**1989 FORD AEROSTAR VAN** Good Condition, Extra Clean, \$1,250.00. 897-5185. 12-18-4tc

**FOR SALE USED GAS HEATERS** For More Information Call 897-6456. 12-25-2tc

**USED BABY GRAND and small vertical pianos** \$344-894-5125. 1-1-4tc

**1996 YAMAHA KODIAK 400 FOR SALE** 4 Wheel Drive, Gun Rack, Excellent Condition \$3,500. Call 897-8787. 1-1-4tc

**ACE HARDWARE & RADIO SHACK ELECTRONICS**

•Paints •Tools  
•Keys made •Plumbing  
•Electronics •Guns  
•Electrical Supplies  
•Hunting & Fishing Supplies  
•Hello Kitty School Supplies! Back Packs Glue, Glue Sticks, Pens, Pencil Sharpeners, Paper, etc.  
•Lawn & Garden Supplies  
•Canning Supplies •Jars  
Lids, Etc.  
•Snapper, Murry & MTD Parts  
•Disk Network - Free System

**ELBA LAWFORD'S ACE HARDWARE**  
On the Square - Elba, AL - 897-2300

### BUILDING MATERIALS

**BUILDING KITS!** Genuine SteelMaster(R) Structural Steel Arch Building Kits at huge savings - 20x40, 30x58, 50x200. Perfect for Workshops/Garages. Call 1-800-341-7007. www.SteelMasterUSA.com (R)

Deadline for Classified Ads is Tuesday Noon!

### HEALTH & FITNESS

#### INJURED KILLED CHEATED ABUSED

Free Consultation

**1-800-REAL-LAW**

24 Hours A Day, 7 Days A Week

You never pay a dime unless we get you money.

**NORRIS**

Norris Injury Lawyers

www.norrisinjurylawyers.com

The Right Choice

### YARD SALES

**MOYNG SALE** at 2207 Hwy. 87 North, on Sat. Jan. 3. Rain or Shine! 1-1-1tc

**YARD SALE - SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 2004** Until 12:00 Noon. 356 Dr. Roberts Dr. Elba, Behind Faye's Nursery. Cancelled if raining! 1-1-1tc

### ANTIQUES

We strive to prevent errors in your ad, but any corrections necessary must be made immediately after first publication to insure proper credit.

### PAYMENT

is by cash, check, credit card or 30-day charge with approved credit.

### COST

Prepaid personal ads get fourth year off!  
Bordered classifieds cost \$5.00 per column inch.

### SERVICES

**LADY AVAILABLE TO SIT WITH THE ELDERLY** Days, nights and weekends. References are available. Call Jan 1-1-4ip

**DUMP TRUCK BACKHOE** & Tractor Service, Top Soil & Fill Dirt. Call (334) 897-1685 or (334) 944-2388-Jonas Messick. 5-29-4tc

**5000 CARS & trucks!** Police impounds, Ford, Toyotas, Chevy's from \$500. Govt Surplus! 1-800-941-8777. ext. C4498.

**COMPUTERS**

A NEW computer - no cash? You're approved - guaranteed! No credit check - bad credit okay. "Check" account required. 1-800-420-1328. 12-18-4tc

### AUTOS FOR SALE

**1989 FORD AEROSTAR VAN** Good Condition, Extra Clean, \$1,250.00. 897-5185. 12-18-4tc

### PERSONALS

**NEED TO advertise statewide?** ALA-SCAN can place your 25-word ad in 115 newspapers across Alabama for only \$19.95 (additional words \$1.00). Call 1-800-941-8071 for our how easy it is to advertise statewide! Or visit us online at www.ala-scan.com. (R)

### DRIVERS - ACCEPTING

driver trainees today! 16 day Class-A (CDL) & refresher training! Companies hiring nationwide job placement assistance. Mon-Sun 8:00-5:00. 1-800-883-0171, ext AD-23. (R)

### DRIVERS: BEST get better!

Company up to 45c. Teams up to 13c. O/O up to 93c per mile! Also, new lease purchase plan w/SO! 1-800-CFI-DRIVE www.cfidriving.com. (R)

### DIABETICS

**FREE ACCU-CHEK COMPACT METER** Self Contained Strips Eliminate Need to Carry Strips Supplies are Medicare and Insurance Covered No Up Front Costs! No Paperwork FREE DELIVERY TO YOUR HOME CALL THE ORIGINAL DIABETICS HOTLINE 1-800-785-3636

### DRIVERS! MILES!

Miles! Longhaul, regional, lease operators, Friday paydays! In cab email! Family voicemail! Class "A" CDL, 6 mo. OTR, 1-800-745-9670, www.continentalex.com. (R)

### WOULD LIKE TO CLEAN

Residential or Commercial & Church. Have references so call and let me clean for you! Reasonable Rates! Call 897-8536

### REAL ESTATE

**AUCTION: ORDERED U.S. BANKRUPTCY** Monday, January 12th, 10:00 AM. Best Bid Wins. Cars, Trucks, 1 1/2 Ton Van with pressure washer, computers, travel trailer, office furniture, new appliances. For Brochure: 1-205-499-1638. Joe Fanti Auctioneers, AL 334. (R)

### FIRESTORM

**AUCTION: ORDERED U.S. BANKRUPTCY** Saturday, January 17th, 10:00 AM. Best Bid Wins. Cars, Trucks, 1 1/2 Ton Van with pressure washer, computers, travel trailer, office furniture, new appliances. For Brochure: 1-205-499-1638. Joe Fanti Auctioneers, AL 334. (R)

### MISCELLANEOUS

**REDUCED-3BR, 1 1/2 BATH HOUSE** with white vinyl siding, central heat & air, stone fireplace, 2 car garage, carpeted ground floor with shed, utility room. Lot of storage space. Very nice. Located at 1270 Bypass Street in Elba, AL. Call (Gant) (334) 388-4100. 6-19-4tc

### FREE-3 ROOM DirectTV system

including installation! Free 3 months HBO (7 movie channels) w/subscription. Access 22+ TV channels. Digital picture/sound. Limited offer. Restrictions apply. 1-800-474-6540. (R)

### GOVERNMENT AND

postal jobs\*\* Public announcement. Now hiring up to \$47,578. Full/part positions. Benefits and training for applications and info. 1-800-573-8555. Dept. P325. 8 a.m.-11 p.m./7 days. (R)

### WOLFE TANNING

ped. Affordable, convenient. Tan at home. Payments at \$25/month. Free color catalog. Call today 1-888-839-5160. 10-23-tfc

### HEALTH & FITNESS

**2 BR MOBILE HOME FOR RENT** \$195.00 Per Month, Water & Garbage Included. For More Information Call 897-5602. 1-1-1fc

### FOR RENT

**AVAILABLE FEB. 4th-3/4 BEDROOM-2 BATH BRICK HOUSE FOR RENT - W/** Fireplace, on 1 Acre. Large Storage Shed. 30 Minutes from Enterprise, 10 Minutes from Elba. Zoned for Elba Schools. \$625 Per Month Plus \$625 Damage Deposit. (334) 897-3700 or (850) 880-0620. 12-18-4tc

### BUS. OPPORTUNITY

### ALL CASH Candy Route

Do you earn \$800 in a day? Your own local candy route. Includes 30 Machines and Candy. All for \$9,995. 1-800-998-VEND. (R)

### OWNER OPERATORS

Tired competing with company trucks? Run Southeast, Southern or MidWest. Home weekly. Top percentage pay. Steady refrigerated runs. Sunco Carriers, the all owner operator company. Call Annie 1-800-446-2862.

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### or

### Toll Free 1-888-816-8040

### Fax: (334) 897-3434

### clipper@alaweb.com

### Happy New Year

### 417-897-2823

### www.elbaclipper.com

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# COMMUNITY NEWS



The Elba office of Human Resources Development Corporation (HRDC) recently moved to its new location across the street from the old Elba High School. In honor of this move, an open house and ribbon cutting was held Monday, Dec. 15. The Elba Chamber of Commerce hosted the ribbon cutting ceremony for HRDC. Elba Mayor James Grimes (center with scissors) and HRDC officials were joined by several city officials, beauty queens, chamber representatives and other friends and supporters of HRDC in dedicating the new office building. Following the ribbon cutting, all were invited inside to get a look at the renovations and to enjoy refreshments.

**BOOMERS!**  
Music & Dance  
from the  
40's, 50's, 60's & 70's  
January 9, 2004  
Enterprise High School  
7:30 pm

**COPY SERVICE AVAILABLE AT THE ELBA CLIPPER**

**Briar Patch Garden & Gift Shoppe**  
On the Square • Downtown Elba • 897-8591

**After - Christmas Sale In Progress**  
All Christmas Items  
**40% off**

**LIGHTS**  
Elba - The Jewel Box (897-2296)  
Pt. Reeder - JTB Barber Service (255-2957)  
Dorman - Northern on Main (793-3580)

This performance is made possible in part by a grant from The Alabama State Council On The Arts

## Let's Go... Outdoors with Ben

by Ben Norman, Sports Columnist



### Women Are Taking To The Outdoors In Record Numbers

At what educational course will you find the combined smells of burnt gunpowder, Dutch oven cooking, perfume, and hairspray? If you are one of the women who have attended a BOW (Becoming An Outdoor Woman) course, you know the answer to the above question.

BOW began in 1990 at a workshop at the John and Carol Dorrill farm near Troy. The all female class included housewives, teachers, a county commissioner, a home economics agent, administrative assistants, and real estate agents, to name a few. Women could choose courses in marksmanship, firearm safety, fishing skills, camping, map and compass reading, outdoor cooking, archery, wildlife photography, canoeing, and crafts such as making walking sticks and birdhouses.

Karen Berry, of Pike County said "I just wanted to become familiar with outdoor activities such as fly fishing, canoeing, and shooting. I didn't fall out of the canon paddle strokes. I defi-

nately recommend this course to all women".

Winnie Atkinson from Elmore County has participated in four BOW courses. "I really liked the pistol shooting. I made a nice walking staff and blue bird house with the help of our nature craft instructor," said Atkinson.

Many of the participants said they enjoyed hunting and/or fishing and felt assured that the knowledge gained in this one day course will benefit them. Several women said they did not hunt or fish but were thrilled they signed up for the course to learn about the other outdoor activities.

One participant, a single parent from south Alabama, was so impressed with the basic canoe course that she said she planned to purchase one as soon as she got home so she and her 10 year old son could enjoy canoeing together.

Things are changing in the outdoor world fellows. The girls have discovered our secret, and it's a good thing. Call 1-800-262-3151 to find a course near you.

- THE FOUR WAY TEST**  
of the things we Think, Say or Do
- First - Is it the TRUTH?
  - Second - Is it FAIR to all concerned?
  - Third - Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
  - Fourth - Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

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**2002 TRAILBLAZER LT** - loaded - like new - only 27k miles - local trade

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Stephanie Sasser honored as Sigma Alpha Lambda

NB's Tyler Simmons named to "Super 12" prep team

Capt. Kyle DuBois activated to serve in Afghanistan

# The Elba Clipper

Volume 107, Number 30 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, January 8, 2004 1 Section, 10 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

Arctic air brings winter to Southeast Alabama

## Residents urged to protect the 4-P's

by Linda Hodge, Editor

In regards to traveling, Tallas said it is important to keep gasoline tanks near full during cold weather, and the fluids in vehicles should be "winterized." During freezing and below temperatures, motorists should also be mindful of icy roads.

Other important things to consider during winter, include heaters, propane tanks and de-icing materials.

Tallas said residents using combustible equipment such as kerosene heaters to warm their homes should be sure to ventilate the home to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning. He also said residents should not wait until the last minute to have their propane tanks filled.

Tallas said it is very important for residents to pay attention to pipes during freezing weather. He said exposed pipes should be wrapped and outside hoses should be disconnected. Taking these type precautions could possibly help prevent water from backing up and eventually bursting pipes.

Of course, in Southeast Alabama, the fluctuation of weather is always something to take into consideration.

Tallas said this week alone served as a prime example of the constant and quick changes the area tends to experience.

On Monday, Jan. 5, some places in the state set records for abnormally warm temperatures for this time of year. Then, the Arctic air reached the area and immediately changed the weather from unusually warm to the coldest temperatures of the season.

By the end of this week, temperatures should rise again, but Tallas said the national weather service officials in Tallahassee, Fla. are expecting temperatures of just below freezing to drop again by next week.

"Residents should pay close attention to the weather," he said.

Congressman Terry Everett takes a look back at the progress of 2003

cut of \$1,544. Some 23 million small business owners received tax cuts averaging \$2,209. This new law accelerated the tax relief signed into law by the President in 2001, including marriage penalty relief, an increase in the child tax credit, and tax rate reductions for every family that pays Federal income taxes. It also provided new incentives for businesses, especially small businesses, to invest in plants and equipment and create new jobs.

**Strengthening Our Economy**  
America's families and small businesses will benefit from the passage of the Jobs and Growth Act in 2003. Under this new law, 91 million taxpayers received, on average, a tax cut of \$1,126. Over the last two years, 109 million taxpayers have received, on average, a tax

Please See 2003, Page 2

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